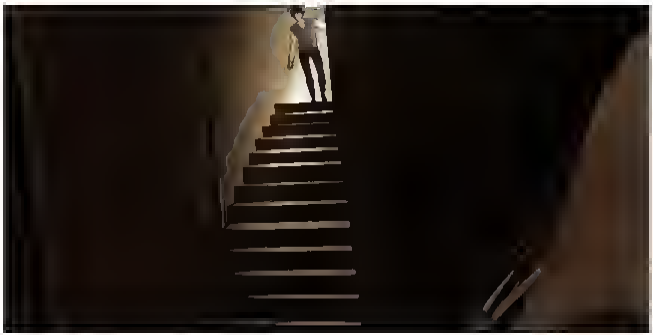
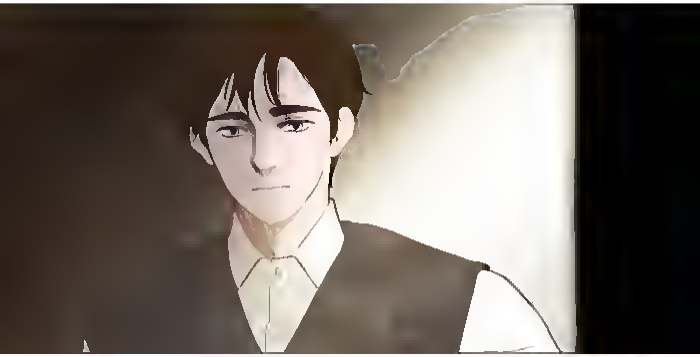




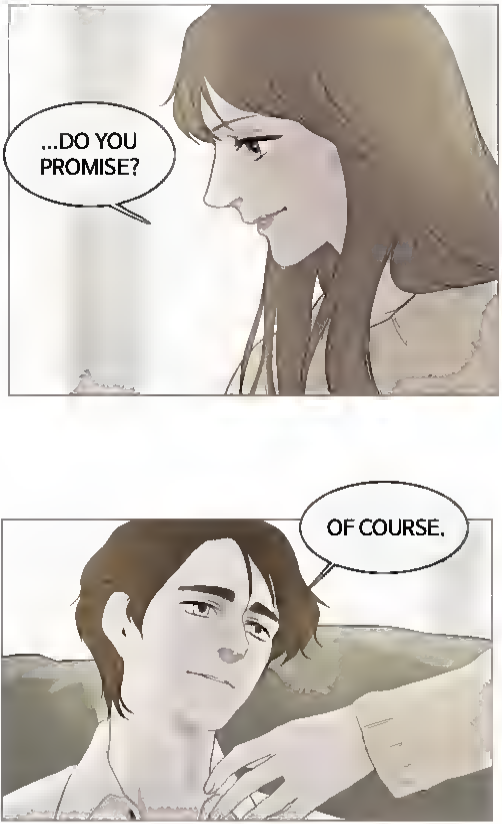
SHAKE
SHAKE
THOSE WERE DEFINITELY ZOE AND ROY'S VOICES.

FOR SOMEONE WHO ABANDONED ME BECAUSE YOU WERE TERRIBLY AFRAID OF BEING ABANDONED, AREN'T YOU EXPECTING WAY TOO MUCH?
SORRY, BUT I CAN'T STOP.

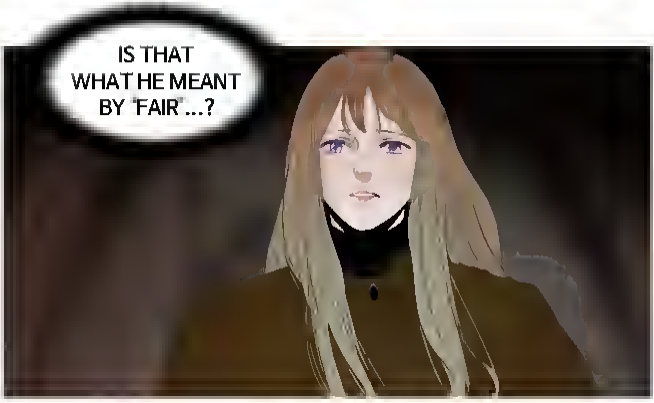
WHAT IS IT THAT HE CAN'T FORGIVE HIM FOR?

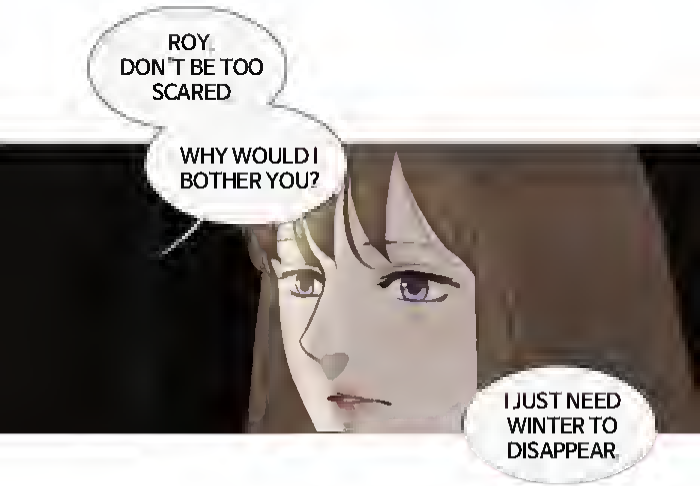
I HAVE NO IDEA.

I TOLD YOU. THERE'S ONE THING I HAVE TO DO.
UNTIL I FINISH IT, YOU AND I HAVE TO BE LIKE COMPLETE STRANGERS.
BUT ONCE I FINISH THIS, LET'S LEAVE HERE TOGETHER.
WE'LL BUILD A HOUSE AND LIVE IN THE FOREST TOGETHER, WITH NOBODY ELSE AROUND.


...DO YOU PROMISE?
OF COURSE.

SQUEEZE
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO DO ANYTHING BAD, RIGHT?
IT'S NOT BAD.
IT'S JUST FAIR.


IS THAT WHAT HE MEANT BY "FAIR"...?


ROY. DON'T BE TOO SCARED
WHY WOULD I BOTHER YOU?
I JUST NEED WINTER TO DISAPPEAR.

MY TARGET IS ONLY WINTER.

TAP.
TAP

TAP
...

...IT COULD ALSO NOT BE TRUE.

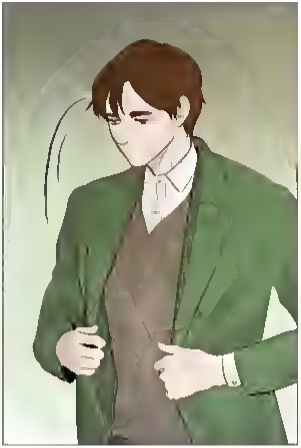
ZOE COULD HAVE JUST BEEN SAYING THAT. HE MAY NOT ACTUALLY HARM HIM.

YEAH, IT COULD BE...

ZOE ALWAYS SAYS HARSH THINGS WHEN HE'S ANGRY...

YOU DIDN'T MEAN IT. RIGHT ZOE?

YOU COULDN'T HAVE BEEN SERIOUS, C-COULD YOU...?



STOMP
STOMP

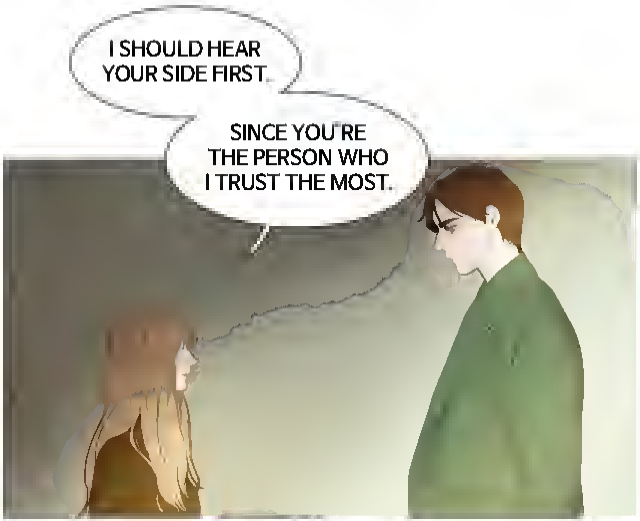
CLICK

I WAS JUST ABOUT TO GO TO YOU-
NOW I RUN INTO YOU HERE...

.....

SO,
EARLIER...

I HEARD YOU AND ROY TALKING FROM INSIDE THE CLOSET.
WHEN I FIRST HEARD WHAT YOU SAID, I STARTED RUNNING BECAUSE I THOUGHT THAT I SHOULD TELL WINTER...
BUT IT SUDDENLY OCCURRED TO ME THAT MAYBE I MISUNDERSTOOD SOMETHING.


I SHOULD HEAR YOUR SIDE FIRST.
SINCE YOU'RE THE PERSON WHO I TRUST THE MOST.

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO HEAR?
EVERYTHING.
ABOUT YOUR PAST THAT YOU DIDN'T TELL ME ABOUT BEFORE.

YOU WON'T BELIEVE ME.
I'LL DECIDE WHETHER TO BELIEVE IT OR NOT AFTER I HEAR ABOUT IT.

Winter Woods

ZOE SAID THINGS
THAT WERE REALLY
DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE.

HE SAID THAT WINTER
AND HIM ARE NON-HUMAN
BEINGS THAT HAVE BEEN
ALIVE FOR CENTURIES.

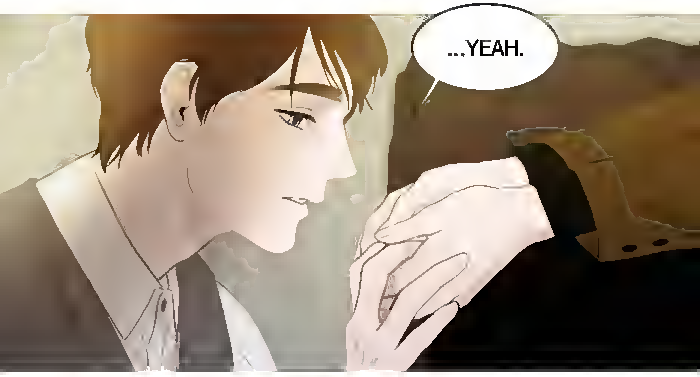
THAT ROY IS SHAPED LIKE A PARROT AND NEEDS SOMEONE TO WIND UP HIS SPRING.

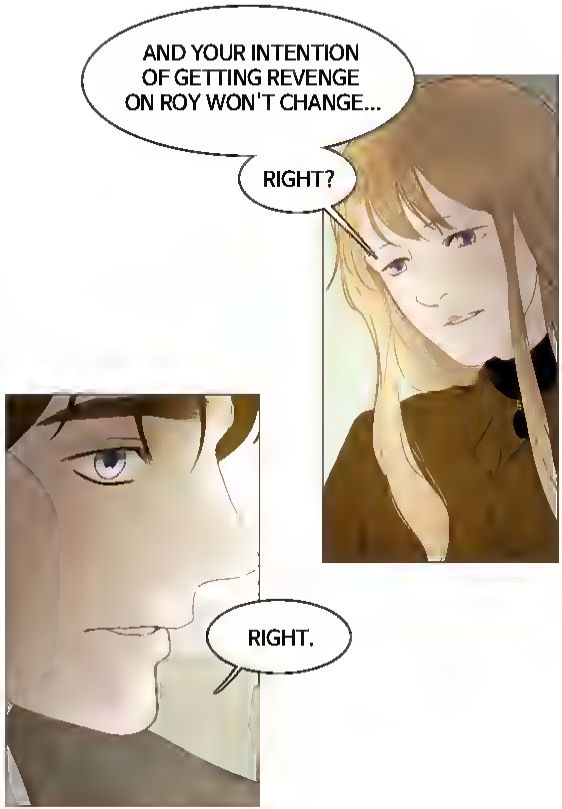
THAT HE HAS COME ALL THE WAY HERE IN SEARCH OF ROY BECAUSE ROY ABANDONED HIM.

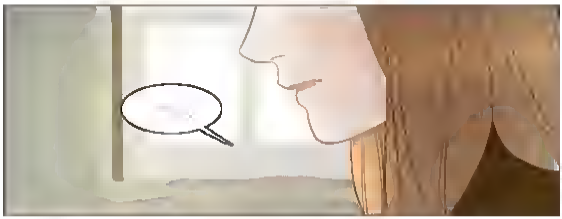
HIS STORY WAS EXTREMELY LONG

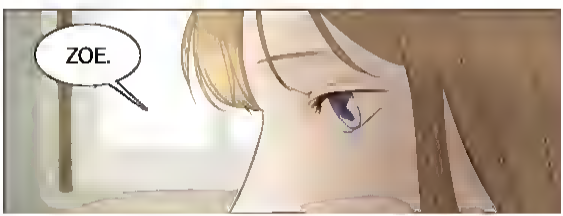
AND EVEN FELT DISTANT.

SO YOU CAME ALL THE WAY HERE...
IN SEARCH OF ROY AND WINTER.

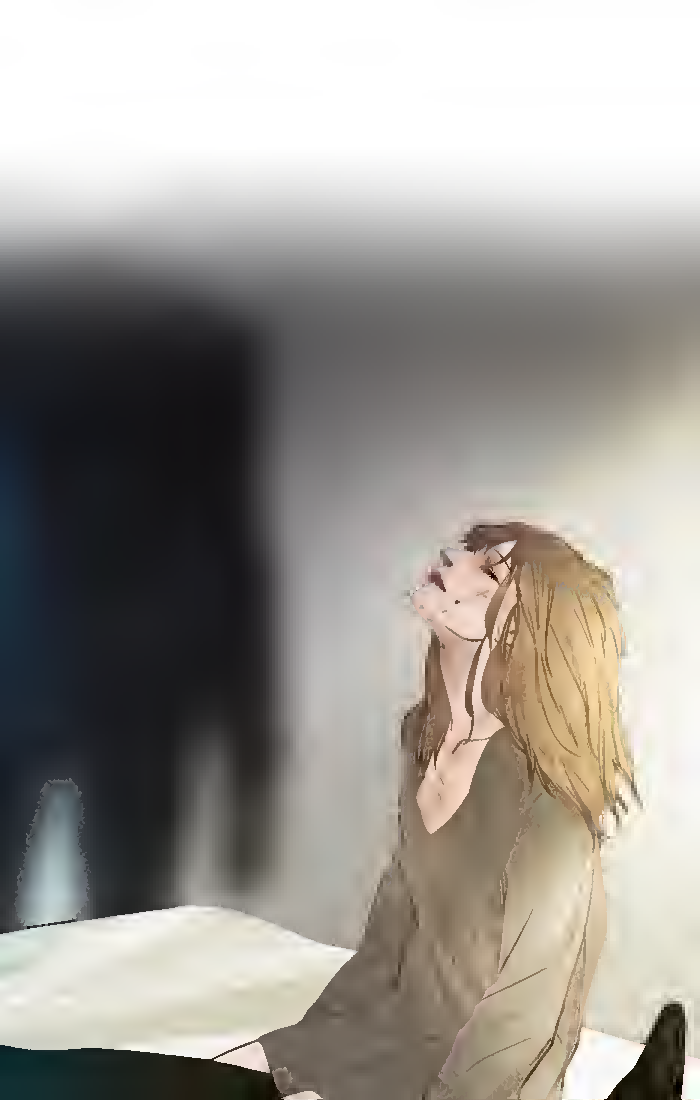

...YEAH.

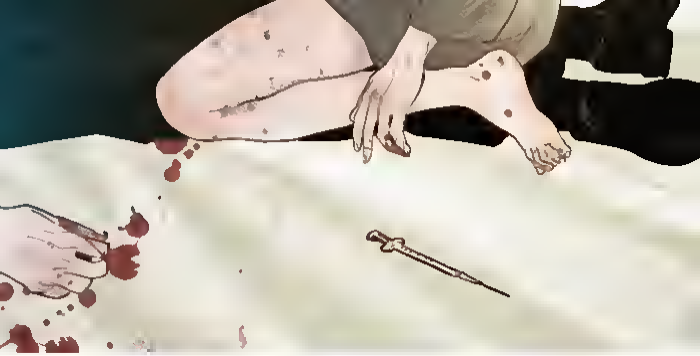

AND YOUR INTENTION OF GETTING REVENGE ON ROY WON'T CHANGE...
RIGHT?
RIGHT.

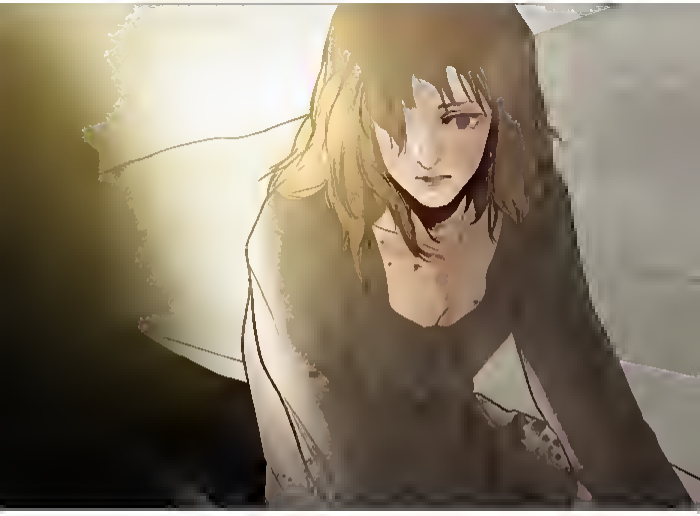


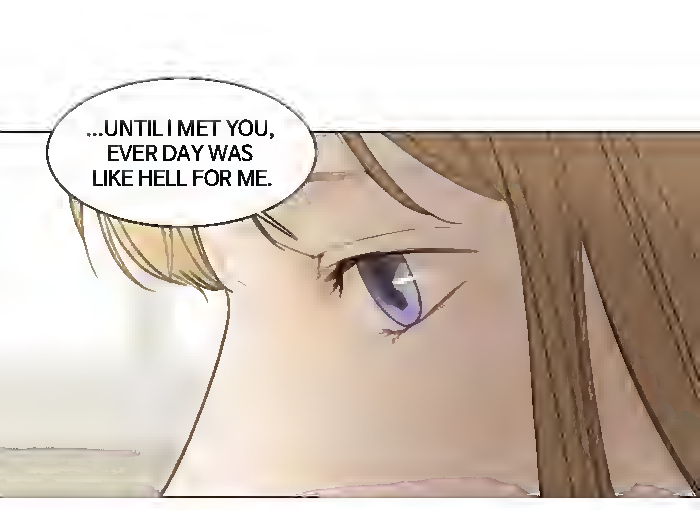

ZOE.

DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN YOU FIRST SAW ME?
WHAT DID I LOOK LIKE THEN?
IT WAS RIGHT AFTER I HAD KNOCKED DOWN THAT HIDEOUS MONSTER
DID I LOOK GOOD?







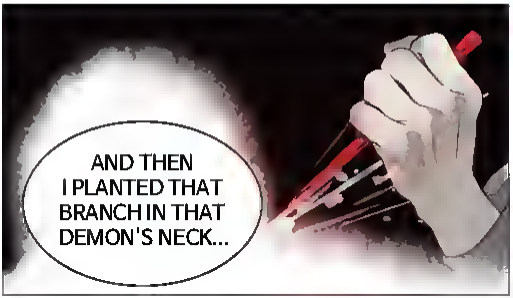


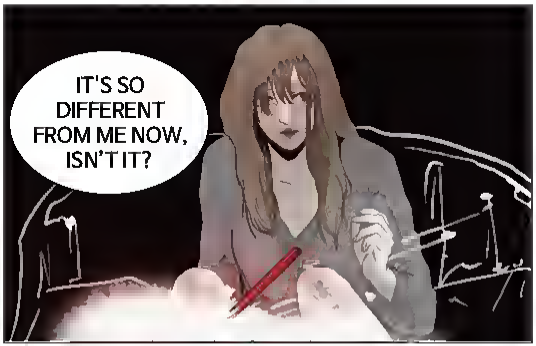
AN ABSOLUTELY TERRIBLE HELL FREQUENTED BY DEMONS.

SO, HOW MUCH
WILL YOU DO IT FOR?

WITH THE INTENTION OF GETTING RID OF THOSE DEMONS, THE DEMONS WHO HURT ME, I BROKE OFF A BRANCH FROM A TREE OUTSIDE THE WINDOW,

AND I SHARPENED THE STICK, THINKING THAT I WOULD FINALLY BE ABLE TO BREATHE FREELY IF I KILLED THOSE MONSTERS


AND THEN
I PLANTED THAT
BRANCH IN THAT
DEMON'S NECK...


IT'S SO
DIFFERENT
FROM ME NOW,
ISN'T IT?

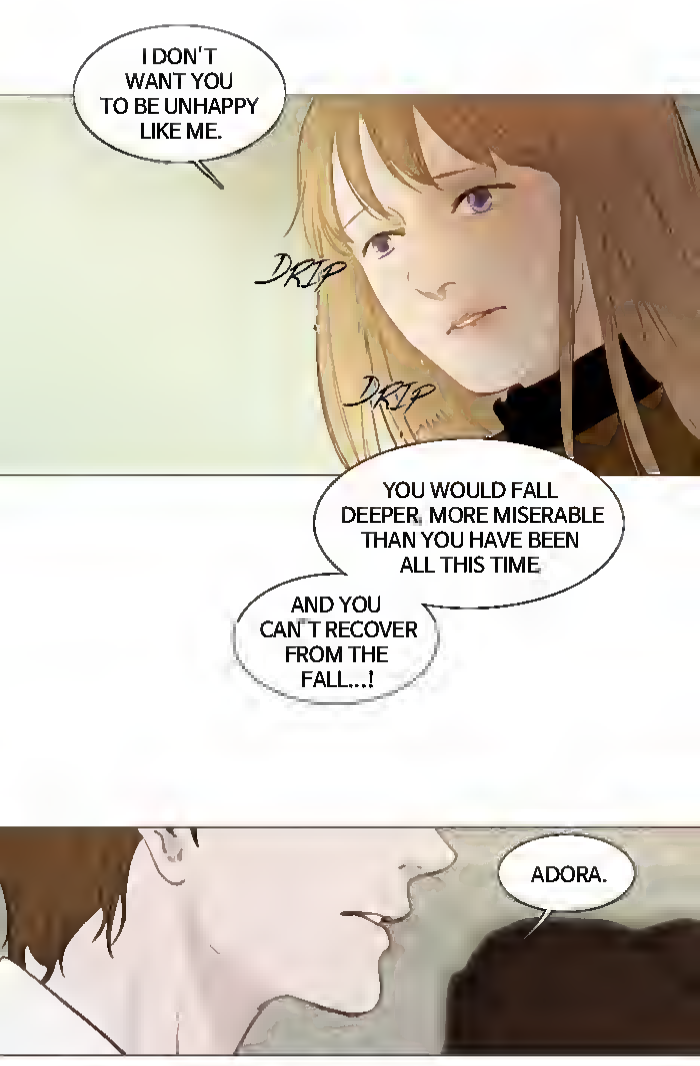
BUT I REALLY
DID THAT.

BUT THOSE TERRIBLE MONSTERS WHO I THOUGHT WERE DEAD CONTINUE TO LIVE ON.
IN MY MIND.
IN MY HEART.

IN THAT ROOM.

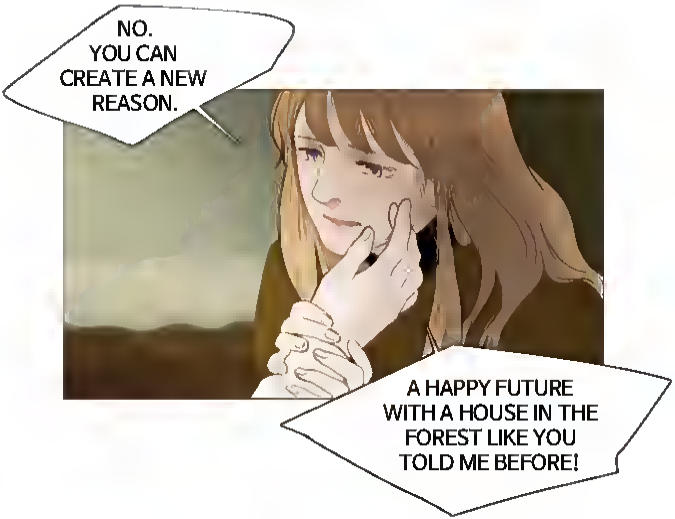
I CAN T GET RID OF THEM WITH THE METHOD THAT I ONCE USED.
I CAN T MAKE THEM DISAPPEAR EITHER.

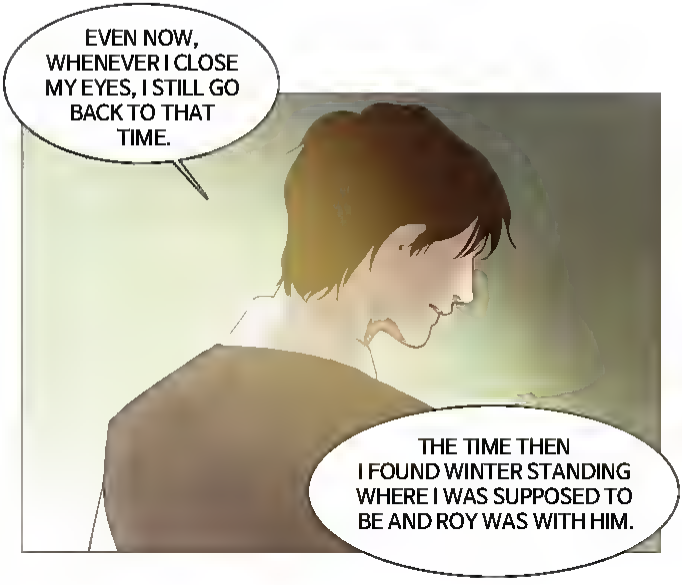
THEY RESIDE IN THE MIDDLE OF MY BACK WHERE I CAN'T REACH THEM. AND THEY TALK TO ME.
ARE YOU HAPPY?
LIKE THIS.


I DON'T WANT YOU TO BE UNHAPPY LIKE ME.
DRIP
DRIP
YOU WOULD FALL DEEPER, MORE MISERABLE THAN YOU HAVE BEEN ALL THIS TIME.
AND YOU CAN'T RECOVER FROM THE FALL...!
ADORA.

YOU AND I ARE DIFFERENT.
MY RAGE ONLY GROWS STRONGER AS TIME GOES ON.
ZOE...!

UNTIL NOW,
I HAVE LIVED WITH
THE SINGLE GOAL OF
WATCHING TRAGEDY
BEFALL ROY AND
WINTER,
BUT
IF THAT DISAPPEARS,
THEN I'LL LOSE MY REASON
FOR LIVING
ALL THIS TIME.


NO.
YOU CAN
CREATE A NEW
REASON.
A HAPPY FUTURE
WITH A HOUSE IN THE
FOREST LIKE YOU
TOLD ME BEFORE!


EVEN NOW, WHENEVER I CLOSE MY EYES, I STILL GO BACK TO THAT TIME.
THE TIME THEN I FOUND WINTER STANDING WHERE I WAS SUPPOSED TO BE AND ROY WAS WITH HIM.

TO ME,
THAT MOMENT IS
THE PRESENT
ITSELF.

I'M NOT SURE.

STEP

1

Winter Woods

원 터 우 즈

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